

B-2224

Eastman Kodak Store
(Royal Oak Federal Savings and Loan Association)
309 North Charles Street
Private

1929-30

The Eastman Kodak Store facade is an excellent example of the Modernistic or Art Deco style in Baltimore. Built during the same period as the Baltimore Life Insurance Company Building (B-2224) on the adjoining lot to the south, the Kodak Store is similar in its fluted piers and carved spandrel panels. The fret or Greek Key design of the spandrels was frequently used in Art Deco ornamentation.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. B-2224

Magi No. 0422245811

DOE ☐ yes ☒ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Eastman Kodak Store

and/or common Royal Oak Federal Savings and Loan Association Building (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 309 North Charles Street ☐ not for publicationcity, town Baltimore ☐ vicinity of congressional district 3rd

state Maryland county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name 309 North Partnership/Royal Oak Federal Savings and Loan Association

street & number 309 North Charles Street telephone no.: 685-0440

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21202

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse liber SEB 168

street & number Fayette and Calvert Streets folio 848

city, town Baltimore state Maryland 21202

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

date 1976 ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☒ local

depository for survey records Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

city, town Baltimore state Maryland 21201

7. Description

Survey No. B-2224

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SUMMARY

The Eastman Kodak Store (Royal Oak Savings and Loan Association) is a four story brick and steel structure with a golden tan limestone facade in the Modernistic or Art Deco style built in 1929-30 and located on the east side of North Charles Street near Saratoga Street in central Baltimore, Maryland. The ground floor has a black granite store front in which the entrance and windows have been considerably altered.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The facade above the ground floor is divided into three bays by shallow fluted piers ending at a plain frieze above the fourth floor. The central bay is slightly wider and has windows on each floor with two vertical muntins. The center bay on the second floor has a slightly projecting plain architrave which overlaps the piers framing the window. Windows in the flanking bays above have single vertical muntins on the second, third and fourth floors. The spandrels below the second floor windows have shallow incised panels in a fret design. Above the projecting molding of the frieze is a plain parapet wall with a raised center panel on which the name "Royal Oak" is applied in silver metallic letters. This originally bore the name "Kodak". An additional story with the same limestone facing containing air conditioning equipment was built on the roof probably during the mid-1950's. Rectangular ventilation openings pierce the facing of the added story.

The ground floor storefront originally had a central recessed entrance between plate glass display windows. On the wall surface above the display windows was a rectangular sign reading "Eastman Kodak Stores". In the 1950's and later, the present owners altered the storefront, eliminating the display windows and installing glass doors and a small foyer with an elevator. The sign above the door was replaced with applied letters similar to those at the parapet.

The interior has been completely altered, but an iron balustrade at the rear of the banking office on the ground floor was part of the original decoration. (See attached article from Power Pictorial, No. 16, June 1930.)

8. Significance

Survey No. B-2224

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1929-30 **Builder/Architect** Wyatt and Nolting, Architects

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SUMMARY

The Eastman Kodak Store facade is an excellent example of the Modernistic or Art Deco style in Baltimore. Built during the same period as the Baltimore Life Insurance Company Building (B-2223) on the adjoining lot to the south, the Kodak Store is similar in its fluted piers and carved spandrel panels. The fret or Greek key design of the spandrels was frequently used in Art Deco ornamentation.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Prior to the erection of the Kodak building in 1929-30, the site was occupied by a three-story brick rowhouse built between 1806 and 1816, according to land records. This building was demolished in 1929 for the construction of the Kodak building. The attached article from Power Pictorial No. 16 in June 1930 emphasizes the "uniqueness" of the Kodak store. This probably refers to the use of an entire building for photographic purposes, a novelty for Baltimore in 1930, and to the unusual lighting of display niches in the first floor interior. The magazine was a publication of Baltimore Gas and Electric Company and regularly carried articles about new users of its resources.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-2224

Baltimore Sun, March 9, 1929.
Land Records of Baltimore City.
Power Pictorial #16 (June 1930), 79-80.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Baltimore EastQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

Co-terminous with lot 25'1½"x87'

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Ms. Janet Davis, Historical Preservation Analyst		
organization	Comm. for Hist. & Arch. Pres.	date	November, 1984
street & number	118 N. Howard Street	telephone	396-4866
city or town	Baltimore	state	Maryland 21201

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

BALTIMORE METROCENTER SURVEY

SURVEY NO.: B-2224

AREA: Cathedral Hill

MAGI NO.: 0422245812

Address: 309 North Charles Street

Current Name: Royal Oak Federal Savings & Loan Association

Block: 603 Lot: 9

Lot size: 25'1½"x87'

Height: 4

Materials: Limestone and granite

Condition: Excellent

Owner: (SEE BELOW)

Use: Commercial

Accessible: Yes, unrestricted

Designation:

Liber/Folio: SEB 168/848.



Historic Name: Eastman Kodak Store

Date: 1929-30

Architect/Builder: Wyatt & Nolting, architects

Style (if appropriate): Modernistic or Art Deco

Description:

The four story brick and steel structure has a golden tan limestone facade with a black granite store front on the ground floor. The original recessed entry between display windows has been replaced by modern glass doors and a small elevator foyer. Above the first floor the facade is divided into 3 bays by fluted piers. The center bay is slightly wider and has three-section windows with vertical muntins. On the second floor the window is flanked by a plain architrave overlapping the piers. The other windows in the outer bays are two sections with vertical muntins. Panels carved in a fret design are located in the spandrels below the second floor windows. Above a plain frieze, a parapet wall with a raised center panel carries the words "Royal Oak" in applied metallic letters.

Significance:

Area: Architecture

Level: Local

The Eastman Kodak Store facade is an excellent example of the Modernistic or Art Deco style in Baltimore. Built during the same period as the Baltimore Life Insurance Company Building (B-2224) on the adjoining lot to the south, the Kodak Store is similar in its fluted piers and carved spandrel panels. The fret or Greek Key design of spandrels was frequently used in Art Deco ornamentation. See MHT Inventory form.

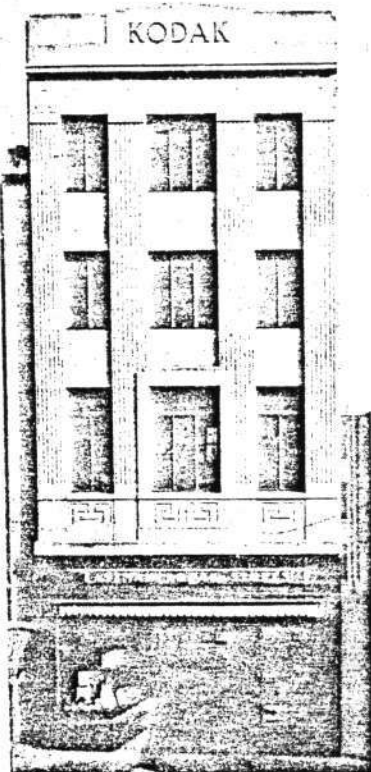
Owner: 309 North Charles Street Partnership/Royal Oak Savings and Loan

Sources: BS 3-9-29; Power Pictorial No. 16, June 1930, 79-80.

Surveyor and Date: Janet Davis, November 1984.

EXPANSIONS

A Unique Baltimore Store



The new building erected by the EASTMAN KODAK STORES, INC., on North Charles Street.

Some time ago, the Eastman Kodak Stores, Inc., realized the need of a modern, fully equipped store to take care of the rapidly-growing needs of the professional and amateur photographers in Baltimore. With this thought in mind, a location was purchased on Charles Street, the old building razed, and a new four-story, fireproof building erected. The store was fitted out with the latest in fixtures, and in February of this year, the company moved from their old location on Park Avenue to this new and complete building, which is devoted wholly to the photographic trade. It seems fitting that 1930 should witness this development, for it is the fiftieth anniversary of the original Eastman patent, and the beginning of the Kodak Institution. During this half century, interest in photography has deepened steadily and, during the most recent years, amateur movie photography has swelled the already great number of devotees of this art and science.

The first floor of this four-story building is given over entirely to the requirements of the amateur. Cameras of all sizes and types, albums, films and the host of smaller attachments are displayed here. Considerable prominence is given to the 16 mm. movie camera and projecting

machine, for this represents a new and popular phase of photography. Almost every one of us has spent many pleasant evenings seeing our friends on the screen, reliving the events of vacations and pleasures. One feature of the Eastman Store is a miniature theater where the amateur may examine his own reels, or witness a demonstration of the equipment.

The second floor



The first floor interior. Lighting in this building is especially good. Of particular interest are the recessed panels along the upper side walls; in these will be placed, on display, enlargements of amateur photographs.

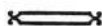
POWER PICTORIAL

is devoted to the needs of the professional portrait and commercial photographer. The equipment displayed here is, of course, more elaborate than that which is required by the amateur. An interesting portion is the electric lighting equipment used by many modern photographers to replace daylight, and free the operator from the vagaries of the sun. Completely equipped studios permit thorough examination and demonstration of this and other equipment.

Developing and finishing rooms are located on the third floor. Here, as throughout the entire building, only the latest and most efficient type of equipment is used. The structure is fireproof, and was erected in accordance with the needs of the Eastman Stores.

The illumination throughout the building is exceptionally fine, more than 50 K.W. being required. An unusual lighting arrangement has been installed on the first floor. Shallow alcoves or depressions extend along the upper part of both side walls, and in these will be displayed enlargements from amateur pictures. To illuminate these properly, cove lighting has been installed, which will illuminate the photograph without any glare.

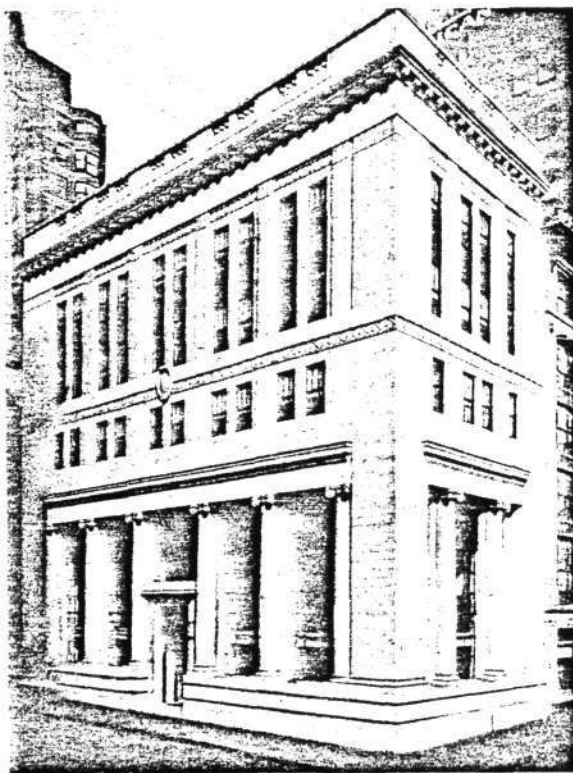
All in all, this new establishment will be of great convenience to Baltimore photographers, both the professional artist and the amateur.



Investment Bankers Open New Quarters

Mackubin-Goodrich & Company opened their new building, at the corner

of South and Redwood Streets, on February 17, on the site formerly occupied by the Farmers and Planters National Bank. This structure, which represents an investment of approximately \$750,000.00, is five stories high with 20,000 square feet of floor space. The first floor is used for the offices of the partners of the firm, and the cashier's window. The customers' room is on the lower level, and, through a well, the visible tape in that room can be seen from the main floor. For operation of the elevators and other incidental power requirements, 95 H.P. is needed and the lighting totals 86 K.W.



MACKUBIN-GOODRICH & CO.'S NEW BANKING QUARTERS.

A Notable E



The control panel used by THE C their truck



1. With the recent addition the total electrical requirements of
2. THE NATIONAL LEAD COM their building and added 100 H.P.
3. THE NEW PRESBYTERIAN
4. BURNS AND RUSSELL, form Rosebank Avenue, near North Po

Baltimore Metrocenter Survey
Cathedral Hill Area
Eastman Kodak Store
309 North Charles Street
B-2224

ROYAL OAK
BUILDING

ROYAL OAK FEDERAL
SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION

PROFESSIONAL
OFFICES
to 3,000 Sq Ft
Available Now
9-5540

SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION

Eastman Kodak Store B-2224
309 North Charles Street
Cathedral Hill - Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Janet Davis
Date: August 1984
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
West elevation

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Bl. 603
B-2224
MAGI #0422245812

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Royal Oak Building

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

309 North Charles Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE
☒ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE

1976

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY ☒ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &
ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CITY, TOWN

Room 900

STATE

26 South Calvert St.

Baltimore, Md. 21202

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three bay wide, four story high building is faced with orange sandstone and is executed in a stylized 1920's neo-classical mode. Originally the building undoubtedly bore a closer resemblance to the temple form, however it has undergone exterior alterations which have obscured the original appearance.

The first floor replacement commercial front is faced in polished black granite. A large, single entrance bay is outlined is a projecting granite band. The arrangement of aluminum and plate glass, with double glass doors flanked by sections of fixed plate glass, topped by a single unbroken transom. Above the entranceway thin aluminum figures set on the stone, identify the occupant of the structure.

At the second floor level the sandstone is intact. Four reeded, shallow pilasters with slab capitals rise to a flat frieze. Spandrels at the first floor level feature over-scaled carved relief fretwork. Casement windows at the the first floor level rise above the spandrels; the central, tripartite casement is capped with a projecting, shallow pediment, and projecting frames overlap the flanking pilasters. The third and fourth floors similarly have casement windows, with a tripartite unit in the central bay. Single panes of glass are set in thin metal sash and are recessed into frameless openings. All are set above flat spandrels.

The plain frieze is articulated with small, square recessions above each pilaster and is topped with a thin cornice. The parapet above conceals air conditioning equipment set up a small penthouse, and the central bay projects slightly. Each bay is fitted with rectangular aluminum ventilator grills, and thin aluminum letters set on the central portion identify the structure as "The Royal Oak Building". The parapet would appear to have been added at a latter date, for irregular sandstone ashlar which holds the aluminum grills, crowns a shallow monolithic pediment which is outlined in the stone joinery. A band of thin stone molding runs at the roofline.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD**

☐ PREHISTORIC
☐ 1400-1499
☐ 1500-1599
☐ 1600-1699
☐ 1700-1799
☒ 1800-1899
☒ 1900-

☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
☐ AGRICULTURE
☒ ARCHITECTURE
☐ ART
☐ COMMERCE
☐ COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING
☐ CONSERVATION
☐ ECONOMICS
☐ EDUCATION
☐ ENGINEERING
☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
☐ INDUSTRY
☐ INVENTION

☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
☐ LAW
☐ LITERATURE
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSIC
☐ PHILOSOPHY
☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

☐ RELIGION
☐ SCIENCE
☐ SCULPTURE
☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ THEATER
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See 300 St. Paul Place.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION _____

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Bill Pencek, Planning Assistant

ORGANIZATION

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &
ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

DATE

1976

STREET & NUMBER

Room 900

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

26 South Calvert St.
Baltimore, Md. 21202

STATE

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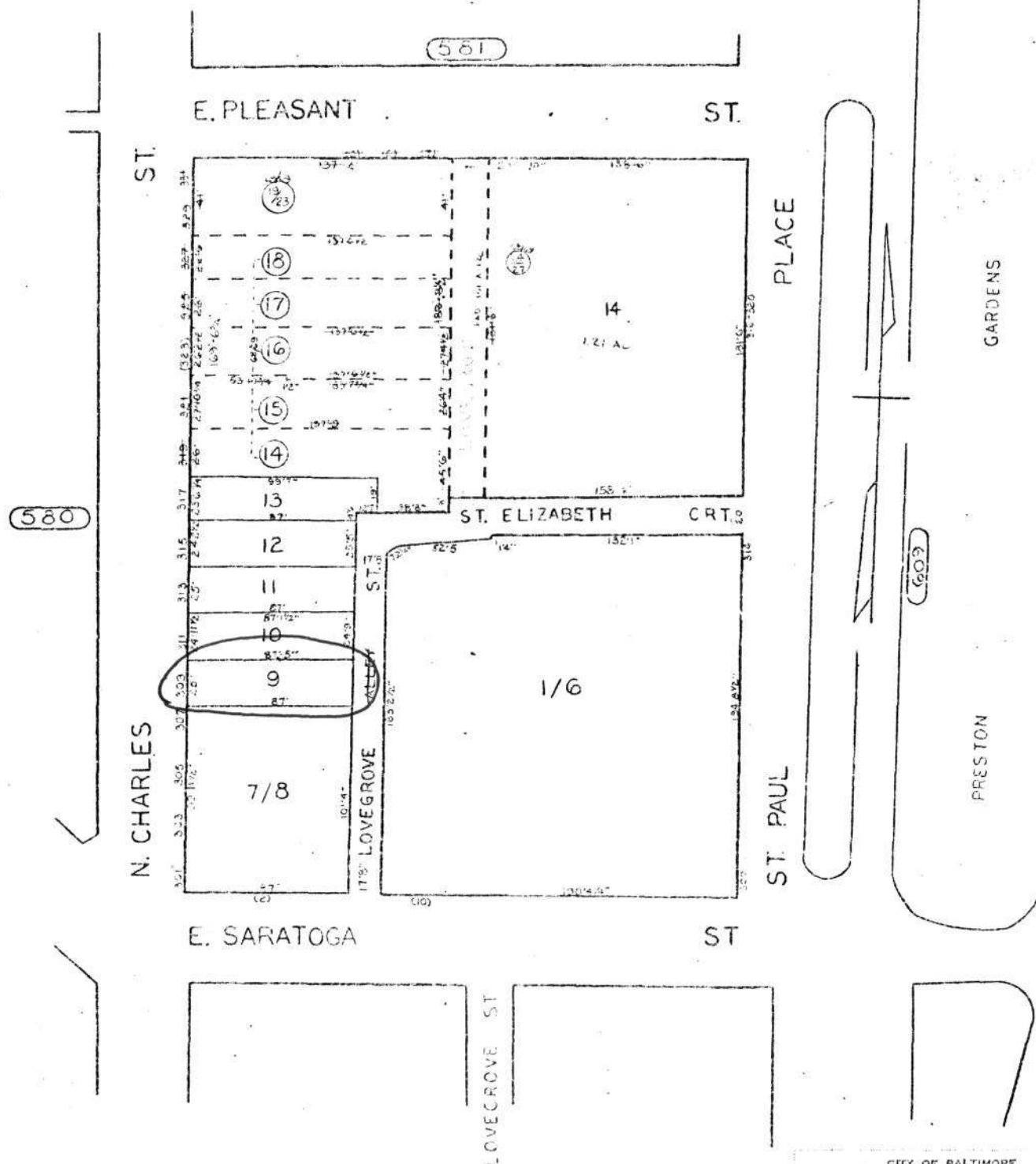
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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

REVISIONS

DATE 10/11/11 23 CONS'D FOR APP. DATE 10/18/11
DATE 10/23/11 24/21 CONS'D FOR APP. DATE 10/23/11

β-2224



TRACED BY BLW
LETTERED BY BLW
CHECKED BY

NOTICE

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED
FOR UNDER ARTICLE 76/91 OF THE CITY CHARTER.
IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER
SOURCES AND IS NOT AN AUTHENTIC SURVEY.

CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

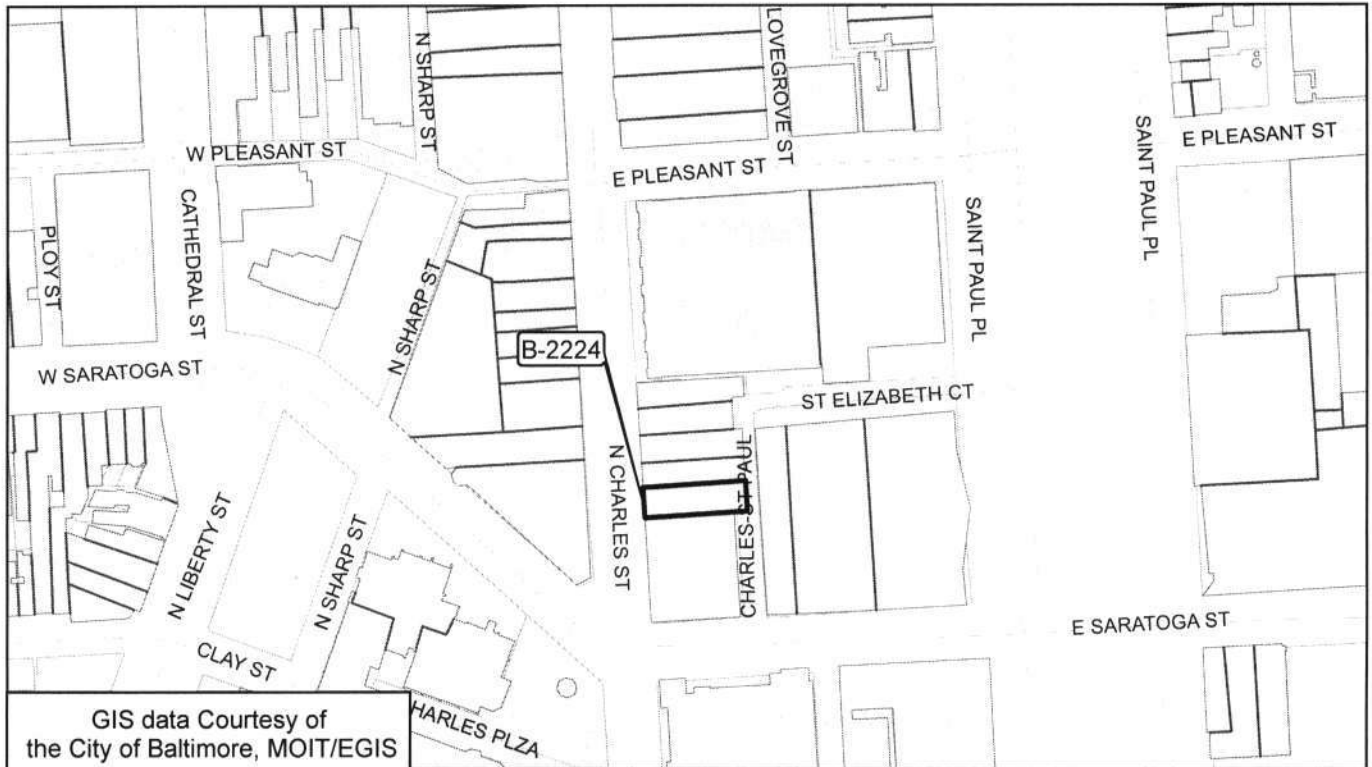
PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

WARD 4 SECTION 1
BLOCK 603

SCALE 1"=50'-0"

DATE 10/10/11

B-2224
Royal Oak Building (Eastman Kodak Store)
309 N. Charles Street
Block 0603, Lot 009
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-2224

BLK 603

309, 311 N. Charles